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Holikachuk language

Holikachuk (own name: *Doogh Qinag*[5]) was an Athabaskan language formerly spoken at the village of Holikachuk (*Hiyeghelinhdi*) on the Innoko River in central Alaska. In 1962, residents of Holikachuk relocated to Grayling on the lower Yukon River. Holikachuk is intermediate between the Deg Xinag and Koyukon languages, linguistically closer to Koyukon but socially much closer to Deg Xinag. Though it was recognized by scholars as a distinct language as early as the 1840s, it was only definitively identified in the 1970s.[6] Of about 180 Holikachuk people, only about 5 spoke the language in 2007.[7] In March 2012, the last living fluent speaker of Holikachuk "died" in Alaska.[2]

James Kari compiled a short dictionary of Holikachuk in 1978, but Holikachuk remains one of the least documented Alaska Native languages.[8]

Holikachuk	
Doogh Qinag	
Native to	United States
Region	Alaska (lower Yukon River, Innoko River)
Ethnicity	Holikachuk people
Extinct	2012, with the death of Wilson Deacon[1][2]
Language family	Dené–Yeniseian? ▪ Na-Dené ▪ Athabaskan ▪ Northern Athabaskan ▪ **Holikachuk**
Writing system	Latin (Northern Athabaskan alphabet)
Official status	
Official language in	Alaska[3]
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	`hoi`
Glottolog	`holi1241` (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/holi1241)[4]

Examples

[9]

- **łoogg** fish
- **łoogg dood mininh iligh** November (literally: 'month when the eels come [swim]')
- **giggootth** scales
- **q'oon'** fish eggs
- **nathdlod** Indian ice cream

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External links

- Holikachuk Athabascan (https://web.archive.org/web/20170719184958/http://www.uaf.edu/anlc/languages/hk/). Alaska Native Language Center. Retrieved on 2007-03-14.

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